

GOVERNOR BREAKS GROUND AT US42/KY 841 RAMP RELOCATION

Realignment first sign of progress on Ohio River Bridges Project



Deputy Secretary Jim Adams and Governor Ernie Fletcher review the map of the project.



L to R: Transportation Secretary Bill Nighbert, Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, U.S. Rep. Mike Sodrel, R-IN, U.S. Rep. Anne Northup, R-KY, Governor Ernie Fletcher, Transportation Deputy Secretary Jim Adams, FHWA Administrator J. Richard Capka, and Prospect City Council members Alan Simon and Sandra Tucci

Governor Ernie Fletcher was joined by federal, state and local officials on June 19 to commemorate the first physical activity associated with the Ohio River Bridges Project at a groundbreaking ceremony kicking off work on the US 42/KY 841 ramp relocation.

U.S. Rep. Anne Northup (R-Kentucky), U.S. Rep. Mike Sodrel (R-Indiana), Federal Highway Administrator J. Richard Capka, Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson and officials from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Indiana Department of Transportation gathered for a brief program at the Harrods Creek Fire Department in Prospect. The official groundbreaking took place at the US 42/KY 841 split directly after the event.

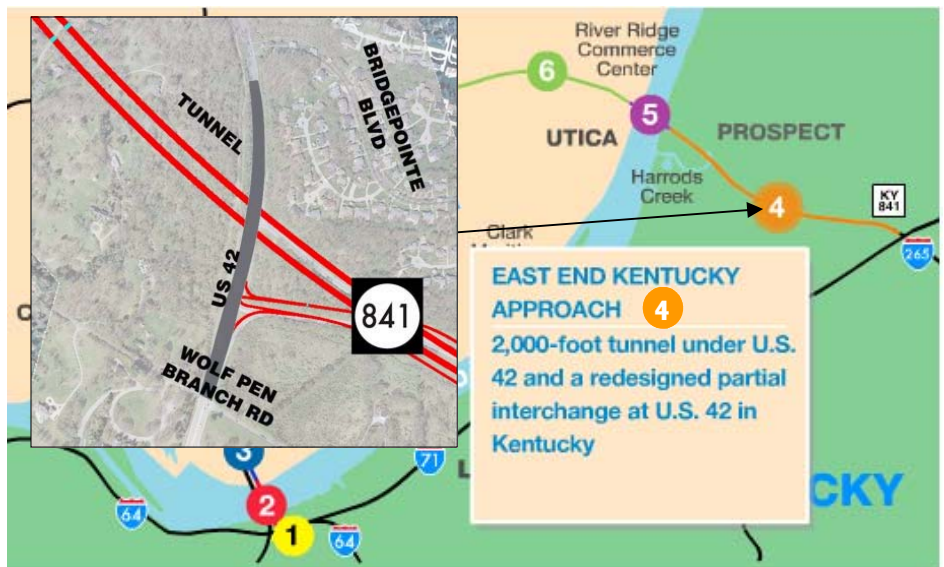
"The Ohio River Bridges Project is a priority for the state, and we are glad to see progress being made," said Governor Fletcher. "The project's improvements in safety, efficiency and capacity will result in significant economic development opportunities and an enhanced quality of life."

The KY 841 off-ramp from the Gene Snyder Freeway will be moved west of its current location, where it will run parallel to the Snyder on-ramp from US 42. The work is preliminary to the boring of an exploratory tunnel alongside the current KY 841 off-ramp and extending below US 42. The tunnel bore will provide design engineers with valuable geotechnical information as they plan for a six-lane, 2,000-foot tunnel at the US42/KY 841 intersection.

Realigning the KY 841 off-ramp is expected to improve traffic safety in the area, and the addition of two new left-turn lanes on US 42 will improve traffic flow onto the Snyder on-ramp. A new traffic light will be synchronized with the light at Wolf Pen Branch Road. Work at the 841/42 location is expected to be completed by Nov. 30, 2006.

The Ohio River Bridges Project addresses the long-term, cross-river transportation needs in the Louisville-Southern Indiana region. In 2003, the Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Department of Transportation and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet agreed that the only feasible way to meet cross-river transportation needs was to construct two new bridges and rebuild the Kennedy Interchange. Of a variety of options studied, the alternative selected would best achieve the transportation needs with the least amount of impact on environmental resources and the communities.

The Bridges Project is currently in the design phase with construction tentatively scheduled to be complete by 2020. For more information, visit the project Web site, at www.kyinbridges.com.



The Ohio River Bridges Project